

blown over sideways until they touched each other and were flat against the bonnet. At 60 mph I called Miss Wells' attention to the situation, as she was driving, and we were able to have a clear run of almost 15 miles without slowing the vehicle below 30 mph. When we were finally required to halt, the butterfly righted itself and immediately flew away.

How did the insect retain its position on a glossy surface for so long a time at such pressure? As I knew of no anatomical explanation I wrote to several more knowledgeable colleagues. No one had encountered or read about a similar situation. Miss Wells has suggested that the answer might involve aerodynamics, considering the short distance of the butterfly from the sharply diverging wind-screen. When studying the distribution of insects, we must pay attention to the artificial and sometimes curious means by which individuals may reach their destinations. Can readers of the *Record* solve the mystery of the tenacious *virginiensis*? — Dr. R. S. WILKINSON, 228 Ninth Street, N. E., Washington, D.C. 20002, U.S.A.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PHASMID CLONOPSIS GALLICA (CHARPENTIER) ON THE QUIBERON PENINSULAR, BRITTANY. — Whilst camping at the excellent Park-er-Lann site at Beg Rohu on the east side of the Quiberon peninsular (September 8th and 9th, 1981) I located the phasmid *Clonopsis gallica* (Charpentier). Only adults were located and initially they were found quite by accident. My tent was pitched by an old west facing dry stone, granite wall backed by a tall rough hedge, which ran along the edge of the camp site. At the foot of the wall coarse grass, mainly cocksfoot, *Dactylis glomerata* L. with bramble and sloe, *Prunus spinosa* L. suckers formed a coarse herbage. This I considered would be worth probing for bush-crickets and native cockroaches. I proceeded to search at one end of the wall, but at the first clump of sloe — barely taller than the adjacent clumps of grass, I came to an abrupt halt and stared unbelievably as a slim green phasmid lumbered up the side of the wall.

My first impression was that some phasmid enthusiast must have camped here recently and lost a trophy collected nearer the Mediterranean, but on checking the specimen against details in my battered copy of Chopard, it was clear I had located *C. gallica*. The species is known from several places in Northern France — and indeed must be one of the most northerly ranging of all stick insects.

Further investigation along the wall in question and around the base of sloe thickets across the road, revealed many more specimens, in about equal numbers of greens and browns. A torchlight search the following night revealed that the insect feeds on leaves of younger sloe shoots at the edge of the thickets or along the base of the stone walls. I found no specimens in the upper canopies of old thickets. No nymphs were seen; so presumably this is a species with an annual cycle, eggs hatching in spring and adults laying and dying off in autumn. I found no specimens feeding on bramble or hawthorn, nor on grasses, so sloe is probably the usual

pabulum. However, Mrs. Judith Marshall has found that live specimens which I sent to the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) from Quiberon feed readily on bramble in captivity. Reference: Chopard, L. 1951. Faune de France 56: Orthopteroides, Lecharalier, Paris, 359pp. — E. C. M. HAES, 45, Grove Road, Worthing, W. Sussex BN14 9DQ.

THE BLUE UNDERWING: *CATOCALA FRAXINI* L. IN 1981. — On the morning of 2nd October, I was delighted to find a female *C. fraxini* here in my m.v. trap. As she was in worn condition, she was set up to lay and accordingly obliged with 36 eggs on the 7th and about 20 the following evening. Altogether, she has laid a total of 102 fertile eggs before dying on the 22nd October. A. HARMER, 1 Covertside, Sway Road, Lymington, Hants.

Current Literature

A Revised List of the Lepidoptera of the Isles of Scilly by the Rev. D. Agassiz. Decorated cover and 20pp. Isles of Scilly Museum Association, 1981. Available from the Author, The Vicarage, High View Avenue, Grays, Essex RM17 6RU.

Price 50p postage extra.

This definitive list covers the whole Order and includes a total of 503 species, though the author says "that there must be many more species in Scilly which remain to be discovered, especially among the microlepidoptera". The list has been compiled from all available sources, but the observations with each species are mainly based on the work of Richardson and Mere (1958) and Supplements, and that of Blair (1925), and the whole is augmented from much additional unpublished data. The Introduction notices the chief sources of the unpublished data, and a list of 22 published references.

It is remarkable that in the Scilly Isles, *Oinophila v-flava* Haw. is a common species "especially in hedgerows", and *Coenonympha pamphilus* L. has only been recorded thrice. The record that in 1970 the larvae of *Utetheisa pulchella* L. (Crimson Speckled Footman) were common, was never confirmed.

A number of species cited in the list require confirmation by a recognised authority from an examination of the specimens (since there is no mention that this has been done), notably those species recorded by Miss Lena Hawkrige as well as those merely referred to as "Record submitted to B.R.C."

Among interesting Scilly specialities may be mentioned *Nothris congrassariella* Bruand (apparently unknown elsewhere in Britain), *Pararge aegeria* L. ssp. *insula* Howarth, *Maniola jurtina* L. ssp. *cassiteridum* Graves, *Agrotis. puta* Hbn. ssp. *insula* Rich. and the striking *Eumichtis lichenea* Hbn. ssp. *scillonea* Rich.

No one interested in entomology who is resident in or visiting the Scilly Isles should be without this modestly priced booklet. — J. M. C.-H.